



Amgen Research (Munich) GmbH
Staffelseestraße 2
81477 Munich
Germany

Amgen Foundation
One Amgen Center Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91320-1799
USA

February 1, 2017

To whom it may concern:

Summer School of Science 2016 – Camp S3++

With the Amgen Foundation supporting this extracurricular initiative, we were delighted to be asked to visit the Camp S3++ of last year's Summer School of Science held in Požega, Croatia. Participants were selected from high-school students (grades 11 and 12) with a keen scientific interest coming from all Europe but mainly Balkan countries. The goal was to engage students into scientific thinking but also to provide background on research at university and in industry as well as general career advice. To this end, participants were divided into small groups that pursued individual projects under the guidance of a mentor. We were especially fascinated by the diversity and complexity of the offered projects ranging from molecular biology to physics and engineering. Students independently developed solutions and presented their results to their peers at the end of the camp. Moreover, there were short swap-shops to enhance experience of different scientific areas, and lectures by external presenters from academia and industry.

We were most impressed by the enthusiasm and dedication that students showed on their projects but equally by the time and effort that mentors invested into the preparation and execution of this camp. These activities strongly support scientific education and training and may help generate interest in pursuing a career in science, especially for students that do not have frequent access to diverse scientific offers through schools, academia or industry. Thus, we were glad to be able to contribute to this initiative that increases awareness and interest for a broad and diverse range of scientific and technical topics among students. Moreover, friendship and team spirit among participants were outstanding and will foster lifelong networking between alumni across borders and beliefs.

Congratulations again on this very successful Camp S3++ and all the best for any future endeavors!

Matthias Klinger, PhD
Principal Scientist, Amgen Research (Munich) GmbH

Scott M. Heimlich, EdD
Vice President, Amgen Foundation